

the Arkansas Department of Highways and Transportation. Gip, would you please stand and be recognized. If you could get ours straightened out while you are here, we would appreciate it, Gip. Thank you for visiting us today. Mr. Clerk...or Senator Moore, please.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. President, I have passed out an amendment to LB 344, the Pages passed out. I would like to point out that the amendment that we actually will be voting on will be a little bit different in that we have stricken the "fifteen or fewer" language in that amendment. And so it now just reads, "Any operation which employs individuals domiciled within fifty miles of the location". The purpose of this amendment, and when this bill was debated on General File my concern was that under the Farm Labor Contractors Act, even though employees of agriculture were exempted, my concern was given the fact that you had, say, a high school student or an area individual who had a group of five or six people working with them, contracting with the farmer to rogue beans or detassel corn. Well, if the farmer actually paid them and they are working for the farmer, they would be exempt. But if they were...if this one person was actually...these people were working under him, the way the bill would read, he would have to pay a \$750 fee under the Farm Labor Contractors Act. I think the bill, as written, may have exempted those people but I believe Senator Smith concurs with me that this amendment would grant the department to have rules and regulations to grant exemptions for someone, a small group, that lives within 50 miles. And so this is just a clarifying amendment and I urge for its adoption.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Further discussion? Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is clarifying for Senator Moore and it is for myself, too. The only thing is not only is it clarifying but it also is providing, basically, another kind of exemption for local so-called persons who contract for detasseling. And I just want to make a point right now. I am going to go ahead and allow this amendment to be attached to the bill because I don't want to do anything to harm, and I have said that repeatedly, local concerns as far as agriculture goes. But it has been brought to my attention, by the Department of Labor, with a thick sheaf of letters and complaints regarding detassellers and their treatment, and I will be watching very carefully to see what the labor department tells me next year because I can tell you there are many